(c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution of India. However the Government of India is committed to the welfare and development of its people particularly the vulnerable section of society which include the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. The Ministry of Home Affairs has been advising the State Governments from time to time to give more focussed attention to improve the administration of the criminal justice system and to take adequate and effective deterrent, punitive and preventive measures.

Issuance of identity cards in bordering States

1424. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to issue identity cards to border States including Jammu and Kashmir States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) At present, only a Pilot Project on the scheme of issue of Multipurpose National Identity Card (MNIC) is being undertaken by the Government in a few selected sub-districts of various districts of 13 States and Union Territories including State of Jammu & Kashmir. However, the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has issued identity cards to all male inhabitants in the age group of 16 to 60 years within 5 Kms. of Line of Control.

Demand for more powers to NHRC

1425. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has urged the Government to provide more powers and to amend the Human Rights Act accordingly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the demands of NHRC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has suggested certain amendments to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 for enhancement of powers of the Commission.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated action in the matter.

Report of high powered committee on Disaster Management

1426. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the report of high powered committee on Disaster Management submitted on October, 1st 2001 and action taken on each of them so far;

(b) the details of strengthening of structures or infrastructures or instruments for disaster management done so far; and

(c) the role of National Committee on Disaster Management and details of its recommendations which are being executed and which are awaiting implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The report of the High Powered Committee (HPC) on Disaster Management contains recommendations regarding the constitutional and legal framework, organizational structures/institutional mechanisms, mitigation and preparedness measures and response mechanisms for disasters. The important recommendations relate to suitable legislation for disaster management at the National and State levels, setting up a National Council and a separate nodal ministry for Disaster Management, establishment of a National Centre for Calamity Management and a National Institute for Disaster Management, integration of development plans with disaster mitigation strategies, setting up a network of Control Rooms and Emergency Operation Centres in National and State Centres and Headquarters of disaster prone or vulnerable districts, strengthening of organizational and institutional mechanisms at State Level, human resource development through training and awareness, preparation of Disaster Management Plans, information networking, upgrading/revamping of the fire services and the Civil Defence set up, and measures for quick response and relief in